



Reported by S. Sruti, Student Reporter

Curious to know how a plastic road is laid? Dr. Balasubramanian explained the process. Read the full story on page 4.

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Sounds interesting?

You might have heard of different types of roads, tar road, cement road, mud road. But this one should be a news to you!

Chennai has one such road, laid using waste plastic to a greater extent. It is the Jambulingam Street in Nungambakkam. This road is now 6 years old.

Dr. S. Balasubramanian, Professor of Inorganic Chemistry, University of

Madras, elaborates the salient features of Plastic roads. He says that the road is twice stronger than normal roads and they bleed less during summer;



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The new leaders at Rosary Matric

By A. Lavanya, Student Reporter

New Playground at Koyambedu

The Chennai Corporation is developing a spacious playground cum park at Jai Nagar with all basic facilities and kids play equipment. This playground is getting ready along 100 Feet Road, opposite CMBT Koyambedu.

Metro Rail Project work begins

The first phase of work for the Chennai Metro Rail Project has started with soil testing along Jawaharlal Nehru Road, near Vadapalani, Ashok Nagar and at Koyambedu. This phase of the project will link Washermanpet with Chennai Airport via Egmore, Mount Road. The Second phase links Fort with St. Thomas Mount via Anna Nagar, Koyambedu, Vadapalani, Ashok Nagar. Out of the total distance of 46.5 kms about 20 kms will be underground and the rest on an elevated structure.

Chennai student wins Intel International Award

J. Vishnu, a student class XI at Chettinad Vidyashram has won the second prize at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair 2009 (Intel ISEF) for his innovation on microbial fuel cell based on graphite electrode. His innovation under the guidance of Prof. T. S. Natarajan of Indian Institute of Technology Madras, has the potential of reducing the cost of providing power supply to rural areas which do not have proper access to power.

Cooum House goes

To provide space for the modern assembly complex, the 89 year old Cooum House located on Sivananda Salai is under demolition. This spacious mansion, built in 1920, was originally meant for ADCs (aide-de-camp) to governors during the British Raj. Located close to Admiralty House, once the official residence of governors, the building faces the Cooum River, which might have given its name.

Txt ur cop

A dedicated mobile number 95000 99100 has been introduced to text messaging the grievances to the city police. Seeing the people make use of the popular facility through mobile phones, this number on which only messages will be received by the police has been announced for the public.

Rosary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Santhome hosted the investiture ceremony for this year on June 25. The chief guest for the day was Sister Sahayam of St. Dominics Anglo-Indian Higher Secondary School. The theme for the day was 'Leadership is action, not position.'

One of the students of the school gave an introduction about leadership. Followed by a welcome speech and prayer song sung by the school choir, there was a dance-drama which depicted leadership.

The School Pupil Leader, J. Rufina of std XI and Assistant School Pupil Leader, Rina of std IX for the year 2009-2010 were given their badges of honour by Sister Sahayam after which they took their pledge.

The House captains along with the Assistant House captains, Games Captain and Cultural Captain were also honoured with their badges. All the School leaders were chosen by conducting election among the students, which was held two weeks before.

The parents of the leaders were specially invited by the school on the day of the ceremony. The class captains and house leaders of each class also received their badges after which the school choir sung a song wishing the new leaders.

Sister Sahayam addressed the gathering by giving a short speech. She also appreciated the students of Rosary for the discipline they maintain. The programme ended by singing the school song and national anthem.

To reach






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Young scribes set on a mission

*By Sahanaa Lakshminarayanan,
Student Reporter*



www.yocce.in, the website for Chennai kids, launched the third annual student reporter programme with a briefing meeting for the young reporters at the Children's Club, V. M. Street in Mylapore.

There were 15 reporters, who had come along with their parents and five senior student reporters of YOce. The programme started at 10.30 am. Revathi, the publisher of the website gave a brief note on what reporting is. She also explained about 5 'W's and 1 'H' of writing reports. All the students were engrossed in her talk when, around 11.30am, a journalist from NDTV Hindu, Ms. Gayathri had come to address the students.

Gayathri shared her experience with the students. She



called five students from the gathering. She had brought a copy of the Down town, supplement of The Hindu with her. She gave them five minutes to go through the paper and later asked them which story they liked most. She

explained how the reporters can choose their area of interest in writing and getting story ideas for their reports.

Lastly there was questionnaire session and Gayathri cleared the doubts of the student reporters. All the students were given Student Report's Notebook containing tips and diary on reporting. The senior reporters were given certificates. The programme ended at 12.30pm.

The student reporters selected for this year to report for the website www.yocce.in are set on their mission at this meeting.

YOce Blog

News beyond Chennai!

Links to online articles
for kids!

Fun ideas and suggestions
from the world of kids!

Visit - www.yocce.in/blog

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Whats ^{up} in July

Kids Expo

July 2 to 6

Mom Dad Kids Expo 09 at Valluvar kottam in Nungambakkam. Also an Aqua Show and a Kids Gaming

Zone will be on at the venue. Entry free.

NTSE classes

July 4 onwards

Preparation classes for National Talent search Examination of NCERT will be conducted by the Nehru Children's Cultural Association, 65, 4th Main Road, Tiruvalluvar Nagr, Tiruvanmiyur. Contact : 2445 3014.

Edu CDs expo

On till July 12

Expo cum sale of educational CDs, DVDs by Pebbles - Dove Multimedia P. Ltd. Maths, science, language, painting and craft, software tutorial CDs will be on sale.

At Dass Community Hall, Cathedral Road; Ramasamy Hall, near Ayyappan temple signal, Anna Nagar; Chellammal Mandapam, Bazaar Road, Madipakkam and a few other places in the city. Contact: 93810 99714

Speaking skills

July 6 onwards

Public speaking workshop for kids in the age group of 7 to 12 years at Hansel & Gretel Kids Play Centre, 11, Jagadambal Street, T. Nagar, Contact : 2815 2549

Thirukkural contest

July 13

Last date to register for Thirukkural Elocution contest organised by Sriram Ilakkiya Kazhagam. Open to schools and college students. Preliminary rounds begin on July 18. Contact Sriram Chits, Greams Dugar Building, 5th Floor, 149, Greams Road. Phone - 4223 6000,

Plastic Road

To dispose the waste plastics, land filling and incineration are the two common processes used but both are not eco-friendly. They either affect the soil characteristics or pollute the atmosphere.

Dr. Balasubramanian says that people continue to use plastic and production of plastic is at an ever-increasing rate. The accumulation of plastic can be of use for this process.

Advantages of using plastic waste in road laying:

- Road strength is twice stronger than normal roads
- Less bleeding during summer;
- Burning of plastics waste could be avoided
- It doesn't involve any extra machinery;

The plastic roads are quite cheaper than the roads made of Bitumen and there is no water seepage in the absence of potholes, the road has a longer life; and it provides employment to self-help groups, which could be involved in collection of waste plastic.

How is a plastic road laid?

The plastic waste is made out of Poly ethylene, Poly propylene and Poly styrene, the most commonly used plastic, accounting for nearly 80% in the form of carry bags, cups and thermocole.

The waste is softened and mixed with aggregates and waste plastics are separated, cleaned if needed and shredded to small pieces.



The aggregate is heated to a high temperature in the mini hot Mix Plant and the shredded plastic waste is added. It gets softened and coated over the aggregate. Immediately the hot Bitumen (at 160 degree Celcius) is added and mixed well.

As the polymer and the bitumen are in the molten state they get mixed and the blend is formed at surface of the aggregate. The mixture is transferred to the road and the road is laid.

Automated book handling at this Chennai library

By Vasudha Mishra, Student Reporter

The British Council

Library has become the first library in Chennai to implement Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), the latest technology to automate book handling process including check-out, check-in and inventory maintenance.

The technology would allow the readers to utilise the service of self check-in (return) and check-out (borrow) books without standing in queue.

The Book Drop Box at the security is a round-the-clock facility that helps the members return books even during the non-office hours according to their convenience.

Two Check-out Kiosks are set up in the library, which could be used to borrow the books on their own. Book renewals could also be made at the kiosk. When books are borrowed, an acknowledgement slip is generated, giving details of the book issued and the date of return of the books. Using the kiosk one could also check their account status -books in their accounts and pending overdue charges.

What is RFID technology? Short for Radio Frequency Identification, RFID is a Dedicated Short Range Communication (DSRC) technology. The term RFID is used to describe various technologies that use radio waves to automatically identify people or objects.

RFID technology is similar to the bar code identification systems we see in retail stores everyday. But has distinct features.



<<< Read complete

report on www.yocee.in/cityroundup.php >>>

British Council is at 737, Anna Salai, Chennai -2. Contact phone no. 4205 0600.

This newsletter is available

for free pick-up at these places.

Tell your friends too!



- The Children's Club, 212/96, V. M. Street, Mylapore.
- Hippocampus Children's Co. 1/E, Subbraya Avenue, Behind Sony World, Abhirampuram. 2466 1544
- The Madras Terrace House, 15, Sripuram II Street, Royapettah. 2811 0259
- Book World, Shop no. 3, 55/1, Bridge Road, (Opp. Aavin Park), Adyar. Ph: 2445 2088
- Enchanting Elves, No.26, Ranganathan Avenue, Sylvan Lodge Colony, Kilpauk. Ph: 94440 85903
- Hansel & Gretel Kids Play Centre, 11 Jagadambal Street, T.Nagar. Ph: 2815 2549
- Peek-a-boo Patterns, 16, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet. Ph: 2499 2365
- Thapasya Art School, AE 113, 10th Main Road, Anna Nagar, Behind Post Office. Ph: 2620 5371
- 3Bs School of Music, 78, Tarika's Nest, Venkateswara Nagar, Adyar. Ph: 4211 4171
- Bookworm's Library, 334/B, Lakshmanasamy Salai, Near PSBB School, K. K. Nagar. Ph: 2489 9779
- Tooth Fairy, Clinic for li'l teeth, 4/11, Vidyodaya 1st Cross

Street, T.Nagar. Ph: 2834 4778

? Do you organise events for kids

Mail us the info to editor@yocee.in

Celebrate your city . . . Contests for the Madras Week



1. Hop across Chennai

Choose two locations in Chennai from the list given. Start from one point and reach the other in three different routes. Draw the routes, mark the landmarks on the routes and say two lines on each of the landmarks. Open to kids in class 7 to 10. Last date August 10.

2. Capture Chennai

Carry your digi cam when you move around the city. Capture the scenes - monuments, public life, events, favourite eateries and even funny posters on the walls or autorickshaws. Email the pictures in original size to yocee.in@gmail.com, along with five lines of description on the photo document.



Open to students of class 8 to 12. Last date August 10.



3. Roll on Chennai

A relay contest which has five parts. Identify the place in the first part with the help of the clues and move to the place it directs you next.

From there to the third place. If you get all the places correct cracking the clues, you will reach the final destination.

Mail us all the places you travelled and the answers to the clues. Last date August 15. For students of class 8 to 12.

4. Sketch the city

Take a day out. Sit in front or on the lawns of a heritage building, monument and sketch it. Post your drawing to YOCee, 15, First Main Road, Karpagam Garden, adyar, Chennai - 20.

Last date August 10. Open to students of class 5 to 8.

For details of all the above contests, refer www.yocee.in/contest.php



5. Multimedia Presentation Contest on the heritage of Chennai

Open to teams of three from class 8 to 12. Choose a heritage place in the city, research and present on slides. Last date August 7.

Deatils on www.themadrasday.in

From the editorial desk



Dear YOCEE kids,

Recently, I came across a news - a nine-year-old boy, Grayson, who got lost in an American jungle said he worked out how to stay safe by remembering survival tricks he'd seen on a TV show.

And last week, Sahanaa, a student reporter of YOCEE mailed a traumatic experience by her friend who travelled to school in an auto and misled by the autodrivers later. The girl jumped off the auto and looked for help, by which time her school teachers alerted her parents that she hadn't reached the school yet!

How do you keep yourself alert on such situations?

Remember a TV show? Or recollect safety tips given by your parents or teachers?

But most of the time, it is the presence of mind and keeping track of what is happening around you.

Never try to revise your lessons in the auto while travelling to or from school. Watch the route carefully.

Always carry a family friend's contact number close to your school or someone who resides on your way.

Have a close friend who can alert your family in case they do not find you in school at the right time.

Never meet any stranger and share personal details with them.

If your parents are watching you closely, be happy that someone will be at help if you land in trouble. Never hide anything from them.

Most importantly, stay safe online. You can use the Net, be part of social networking groups and still stay safe.

Have a safe and wonderful school year!

Revathi
Editor

*Do share this newsletter with your friends.
They too would love to read as you do!*



**Snapshots of the
flower show
held at
YMCA grounds,
Royapettah
in May this year.**

*Photos by S. Sruti,
Student reporter*



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Caught young

Summer in Chennai is usually full of camps. **Raman Sathiapalan, a student reporter of YOCEE, was on a different camp that introduced him to skills in softwares to soft skills. He shares his experience here:**

For one week, from the April 17 to 30th of April, the noise levels had increased considerably in Floor Two of Infosys, Sholinganallur. Every now and then, kids could be seen darting from one place to another, probably disturbing several employees there. I was one of those kids.



Earlier, students of Class 8 from various schools across the city came to this same campus to write a test based on math and logic. Close to three-hundred students took the test. Based on their scores, forty-five among them were chosen to attend a workshop on basic software development.

All this was part of Infosys' inspiring Catch Them Young (CTY for short) programme, which completed its 12th year in 2008.

This project is also undertaken in other cities like Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Hyderabad, Mangalore, Mysore, Pune and Thiruvananthapuram. Another exam was conducted at the end of the enriching two week programme. Two kids were selected to go on a further course to do other interesting projects.

On the bright sunny morning of April 17, we, the selected students and our parents assembled at the venue by nine O' clock. We were given a briefing on what we would be taught in the following two weeks. Once that was done, we were taken to our classroom, and our

parents were taken on a tour around the campus.

Infosys' large sprawling campus itself was a treat far greater than we imagined. This along with the professional teaching and the warm friendly atmosphere there made our stay at Infosys more than just memorable - it made it unforgettable!

We made it a point to enjoy every micro second of our stay at Infosys and were determined to explore every nook and corner of the campus, moving noisily at top speed.

On the first day we were given training on soft skills. We were split into groups and made to prepare a chart on our dreams for the future and present it.

We were also taught basic applications such as Word, Excel and Powerpoint. In the following days we were taught MS Access, HTML, JavaScript and Visual Basic.

Towards the last few days, we were split into groups once again and made to do large projects like creating a page for booking trains online, making a quiz that will calculate your results for you and an efficient, user friendly programme to help librarians and make their work easier.

<<< Raman and friends had some fun moments with snacks, pizza, pick-up and drop from their homes just like the employees of the company. Read the full story online - www.yocce.in >>>

News

Books for kids
Play Schools
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www.juniors.yocce.in

The nook for the young kids